



NIGHTMARE FORESTS

***THE MICHIGAN MONSTER
ATTACKS OF 1992-93***

BY Y. HAMPTON

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Introduction

Michigan is one of the most fascinating states for a person to live in. It is endless in its ability to startle even the most prepared person. Within a few minutes you can drive from the shore of a great lake to a dense metropolitan city, drive a few more minutes and you are in rural farm land. The weather changes so frequently and drastically that Michiganders often wonder if we actually have seasons. Michigan has many personalities. Michigan does not conform. Michigan has everything to give and is always in the process of making more.

It is hard to explain what Michigan is. We have it all and in having it all we become a state that is difficult to explain. From weather to environments to race relations Michigan is a conundrum. Which is why having a monster doesn't seem so strange.

And we have more than one monster. Michigan is the home to legends of werewolves, Bigfoot, aliens, lake-monsters, and ghosts. As a lifelong resident of Michigan I have always been interested in these creatures so when I heard that "attacks" had been occurring by an odd beast I challenged myself to go and solve the mystery.

I have not solved the mystery. I have only been

confronted with more questions and a better understanding that something far stranger than what I originally had thought was going on is happening.

I must also apologize for how badly I write. I am not a writer. I am an autoworker who has become obsessed with a story. I am good at talking to people and this hopefully shows in some of my transcripts of the recordings I have made in talking to witnesses. I fully expect that due to my limited vocabulary this book will be picked apart by non-believers. I wish that those people could look beyond themselves and see that something strange is happening and it is happening all around them.

I thank you for picking up this small book and taking the time to read it. Perhaps in the future everything I have written here will be proved incorrect or a hoax but I hope not. I hope that this story continues and become part of the growing body of evidence that proves the existence of odd occurrences and strange beings. My biggest fear is that this story will be forgotten or hushed up by people who do not want all of us to know the truth.

The story in brief

Between the summer of 1992 and the spring of 1993 in the forests of Michigan's northern lower peninsula a series of strange encounters took place for which no acceptable solution has never been found. The first encounter with the strange beast was in July on 1993 and it last for no longer than three minutes. This first encounter was only later reported as more and more incidents began to happen.

Over the course of slightly less than one year more than 8 experiences, (with what seemed to be the same creature), happened to at least six different people. None of those people were friends or related.

The creature has been described by all witnesses as having these characteristics:

- Seven feet tall or taller**
- Hair or fuzz covering its body**
- Floating or levitating**
- White/light blue glowing eyes**

The creature leaves no footprints since it seems to float above the ground. The shape of its lower body

also seems to look more like the bottom of a dress.

Whenever the creature is encountered the witnesses have all described an odor much like burning oil and or the smell of a freshly extinguished candle.

After the attacks or confrontations have taken place all witness have suffered from weeks of terrible nightmares.

Some of the witnesses have said that they felt a “psychic” connection with the creature or that it was trying to communicate with them telepathically.

Although none of the witnesses needed to be hospitalized after their interaction with the creature everyone of them has stated that they felt the attack had something to do with a misunderstood situation and that the creature might be attacking more in the way that a frightened wild animal would attack other than that of an evil monster.

All significant portions of the following encounters have been left intact no matter how strange they may seem to the reader. This phenomena should be reported without censor and so this is what is being attempted in this book.

JULY 21, 1992

BURT LAKE, MICHIGAN

On the evening of July 21 Helen and David Reeve were taking their nightly walk through the forest near their home. As they neared a clearing they both noticed a smell which they thought was diesel exhaust fumes. The sun was setting and in the growing darkness they could not hear the sound of any type of engine which might have been causing the smell.

David noticed movement in the forest about 10 feet in front of them behind some birch trees and told Helen something was "in the woods." Helen saw two light blue lights about six and a half feet off the ground that looked like "glowing marbles." She told David, "Something is looking at us." Thinking she had seen light reflecting off an animal's eyes she again told David that she thought it might be a bear because it was, "very tall." David remained silent throughout this portion of the encounter.

Being concerned for their safety, and with the light fading, Helen took David's hand, turned him around, and they began to quickly walk home. After walking for less than a few minutes David alerted Helen that he saw the glowing eyes again but this time it was in front of them. Helen then said to David something to the effect of, "Is it a wolf is it a floating wolf?"

The next thing David and Helen remember is being directly behind their property standing together holding hands.

When they entered their house Helen noticed that David had two small scratches on his neck. David commented that Helen had them on her neck as well.

That night both Helen and David suffered horrible nightmares which vanished completely upon waking. The scratches vanished overnight.

The incident of unremembered nightmares continued for at least a week.

KEY QUOTES FROM THE WITNESS INTERVIEW

“ I said to Dave, is it a wolf is it a floating wolf? I don’t know why I thought that would be something that made sense. It obviously doesn’t make sense but I got that feeling like a dog or a wolf about to pounce.”
-Helen

“When I first saw its eyes they looked liked two bluish glowing marbles I think I thought they were eyes because it blinked or something like it’s eyes were blinking.”
-Helen

“Right before anything happened it smelled like someone had burned diesel fuel or an old tractor had been running near the area but there was no sound.”
-Helen

“The scratches on my neck went away by the time morning came, they were really small maybe an inch long and as wide as a piece of string”
-David



Witness sketch of the creature as compared to a human man. This is the creature which was encountered on July 21, 1992. The eyes glowed and even seemed to blink. The lower portion of the creature did not seem to possess legs or feet. Though the creature is drawn looking dark black it could have very well been dark grey or dull silver.

JULY 28, 1992

BLACK RIVER, MICHIGAN

Early on the morning of July 28 Joe Gauthier awoke suddenly in his home as bright lights filled his home. Blinding white light streamed through the windows of his home and he thought that something outside was on fire. He leapt from his bed and ran downstairs and outside. By the time he exited the house the light was gone but he noticed a shimmering silver-like object just above the tree-line behind his house.

He watched the object until it vanished into the sky which took less than 10 seconds. Joe suddenly felt nauseous and was being overcome by the smell of "burning rubber." It was then that he noticed one of the trees on his property was shaking violently back and forth.

He first noticed the swaying at the top of the tree but when he look toward the base he witness a large dark colored creature holding onto the trunk and rocking the entire tree back and forth. His first thought is that he was seeing a "rabid bear" but within a few seconds he knew he was seeing something which "could not exist."

The creature was seven to eight feet tall and covered in what looked like "flowing fur." The creature also lacked legs and seemed to be "hovering" a foot or more above the ground.

Joe yelled at the creature and after doing so "instantly regretted yelling." The creature stopped "hugging" the tree and turned its gaze upon Joe. It's "bright, glowing

eyes” struck “total terror” into Joe’s mind.

According to Joe the creature turned toward him and began to move, rapidly, “floating” toward him. He screamed at the sight of the approaching creature and then woke up in his bed.

Joe’s bare feet were covered in dirt and mud and upon inspection of his house he found the front door open. The creature was gone and the tree on his property seemed unharmed.

Over the next “five or six days” Joe had dreams that continually scared him awake. He could not remember what the events of the dreams had been.

When he was later asked by an investigator named John Tenney if he had any injuries resulting from the encounter he could not remember if he did or did not have any.

KEY QUOTES FROM JOE’S INTERVIEW

“I woke up because it got so bright so fast inside my house.”

“There was a silver object in the sky it could have had lights on it or it could have been shimmering.”

“I thought there was a rabid bear out there hugging on the tree or something but sometimes I think I thought that because I was looking at something that could not exist.”

“There was a sickening burning rubber smell that

almost made me throw up”

“This thing was hovering, it wasn’t touching the ground. I must’ve lost my mind because I yelled at it and I instantly regretted yelling at it because I didn’t know how it would react. It came at me floating right across my yard.”

“This thing was total terror to see. It had a kind of flowing fur, really long fur all over it’s body and almost flashbulbs for eyes, really bright, glowing eyes.”

“I don’t remember what happened after it came toward me I just woke up in bed. I thought maybe it was a dream but my feet were all dirty so obviously I’d been outside.”

“There was about a week or maybe less, about five or six days maybe where I would wake up screaming but I didn’t know why. I thought I was going crazy”

“I can’t remember the dreams I just knew they must have been bad because of the way I’d wake up. I’m glad my wife was out of town visiting her sister or she probably would have had me locked up.”

“When I think back about it now I know I was scared but it really seems to me that this thing was just coming over to see me. I got the feeling that it was just as concerned about me as I was about it.”

“I never called the police or anything cause I didn’t know what I would say to them plus nothing seemed damaged and I was hurt.”



Joe's drawing of the thing that was first spotted near a tree on his property. It floated across the ground and had glowing eyes. Joe said that this drawing does not actually look like the creature because it was impossible to actually see what it looked like due to his panic. He was unsure if the creature had black or brown fur covering its body. He said it was possible that because of the trees on this property the creature might have seemed darker than it was due to the time of day and shadows from the trees.

AUGUST 28, 1992

LEWISTON, MICHIGAN

10:30 P.M. on August 28, 1992 started out the way most Fridays would for seventeen-year-old Jason McDonald, watching movies on his VCR. Jason is a electronics enthusiast and has three video cassette players. He had recently purchased a video cassette called WrestleMania 7 and was preparing to view the movie when he noticed that he could smell "something burning."

Being home alone, (his parents were at a local Fraternal Order of the Eagles Club), he ran to the kitchen to see if he had left a stove on. The smell was not in one area of the house but in every room and on every floor. Jason thought that there might be an electrical fire and attempted to call the fire department. The phone had no dial-tone so Jason fled the house and ran down the road to his neighbor's house.

As he neared the road, in front of his house, he noticed a shadowy figure standing near the driveway. Thinking it to be a local neighbor Jason called out to it for help. The thing turned toward Jason, it had been "facing away" from him but in the darkness he did not notice he had been looking at it's back. The strange figure had "white lights" for eyes.

The figure started to move toward Jason and Jason felt "frozen" to the ground. He also noticed that the figure seemed to be covered in "dark hair." Jason began to feel or hear a "buzzing" sound and felt "little pins" pricking the skin of his neck. Jason then opened his eyes and was inside his house sitting on a couch

and the television was playing static. The movie he was going to watch had played to completion and the tape had ejected itself from the VCR.

Jason told his parents about the experience but they told him it was just a dream and that he had probably fallen asleep watching the movie. He showed his parents some small cuts he had near his collar bones and his father said they were probably just some kind of bug bites.

Jason had “horrible nightmares” until mid-September. He claims to not be able to remember any of the dreams.

KEY QUOTES FROM JASON’S INTERVIEW

“When it turned toward me, I didn’t know it wasn’t turned toward me it was too dark. It was facing away and it turned and then I saw that it had white lights for eyes like when you shine a deer but no one was shining and they didn’t stop being bright. Then I noticed it was covered in dark hair like a fur coat but over the whole body. It towered over me”

“I wanted to run away from it but I felt frozen in place. I couldn’t move my legs or arms or anything. I started feeling like a bunch of little pins pricking at me not like when your arm is asleep less than that but more painful. Then I noticed a buzzing but I couldn’t tell if I was feeling it or hearing it.”

“I had some horrible nightmares after that but they stopped a couple weeks after school started in September.”

OCTOBER 20, 1992

TROY, MICHIGAN

10:30 P.M. on October 20, 1992 J*** Hocktead of Oakland County was driving Northbound on Interstate 75 at approximately 9:15 p.m. As she drove by the exit ramp for 16 Mile Road she saw a "Tall black" figure with "glowing" eyes. She said the figure looked to be wearing a cloak or a "long black dress".

That night she suffered terrible nightmares. Her bad dreams occurred for numerous nights but had faded and finally stopped by November of 1992.

NOVEMBER 14, 1992

AUBURN HILLS, MICHIGAN

At 11:20 P.M. on November 14, on Lapeer Road three teenagers reported to police that they were chased by an eight-foot-tall creature with white eyes that looked like they were lights. One of the teenagers, Jacob Hokins, said that the creature had long thin arms and did not appear to have feet. According to Jacob all three of the teenagers experienced horrible dreams for the next few days.

One of the other teenagers, whose name is being withheld by request of the family, remembers smelling fireworks or a burning garbage smell immediately before the incident took place.

No police report was filed for the incident and the teenagers and their families were told by authorities that the creature was probably someone in a Halloween costume and that the youths were overreacting to the situation.

1



2



Two sketches from two of the three teenage boys in Auburn Hills, Michigan. Described as been seven to eight feet tall, without legs and having long skinny arms. The drawings were made independently without the boys seeing what each other had drawn. Interestingly, both boys drew the creature in the same stance and facing the same direction. The parents of the third boy would not allow their son to discuss the creature. The boy who drew the sketch numbered 2 says that given more time he could draw a more detailed creature.

DECEMBER 9-10, 1992

BAY CITY, MICHIGAN

The Gayer family of Holly, Michigan were visiting friends in Bay City, (located one hour North of Holly), when they had multiple encounters with a creature that eventually ruined some of the family's friendships.

The Gayer family, at the time, included the mother and father and two children; a boy fourteen-years-old and a girl twelve-years-old. They were driving along State Park Drive around 7:45 p.m. when the father spotted what he thought was a bear standing near a bridge over the Kawkawlin River. The father stopped the car and the family stared in awe as the tall dark creature started to "float". The mother told her husband to start driving because she was scared. Before the car started to move the creature floated toward the car and the family started smelling a terrible odor that, "smelled like a tire fire".

Just before the creature reached the car the father gunned the engine and took off down the road. Looking in his rear-view mirror the father said he could see, "two shining eyes" glowing in the darkness.

The family explained their experience later that night to friends and family who did not believe the encounter and made fun of the family causing them to leave the Christmas party early.

On the family's return journey home at approximately 2:20 a.m. just outside of Holly Township the son alerted the family as they passed a similar creature standing

by the road. The father turned the car around and drove back to where the son said he saw the creature. After driving for a few minutes and not seeing the creature they began their trip back home. Within a few minutes the mother screamed when she saw the creature floating in the road in front of the car. As they approached it they saw the creature “fly straight up into the sky”.

All members of the family experienced frightening nightmares for the next two to three weeks. None of the family could remember the dreams other than they were “terrifying”.

KEY QUOTES FROM THE GAYER FAMILY

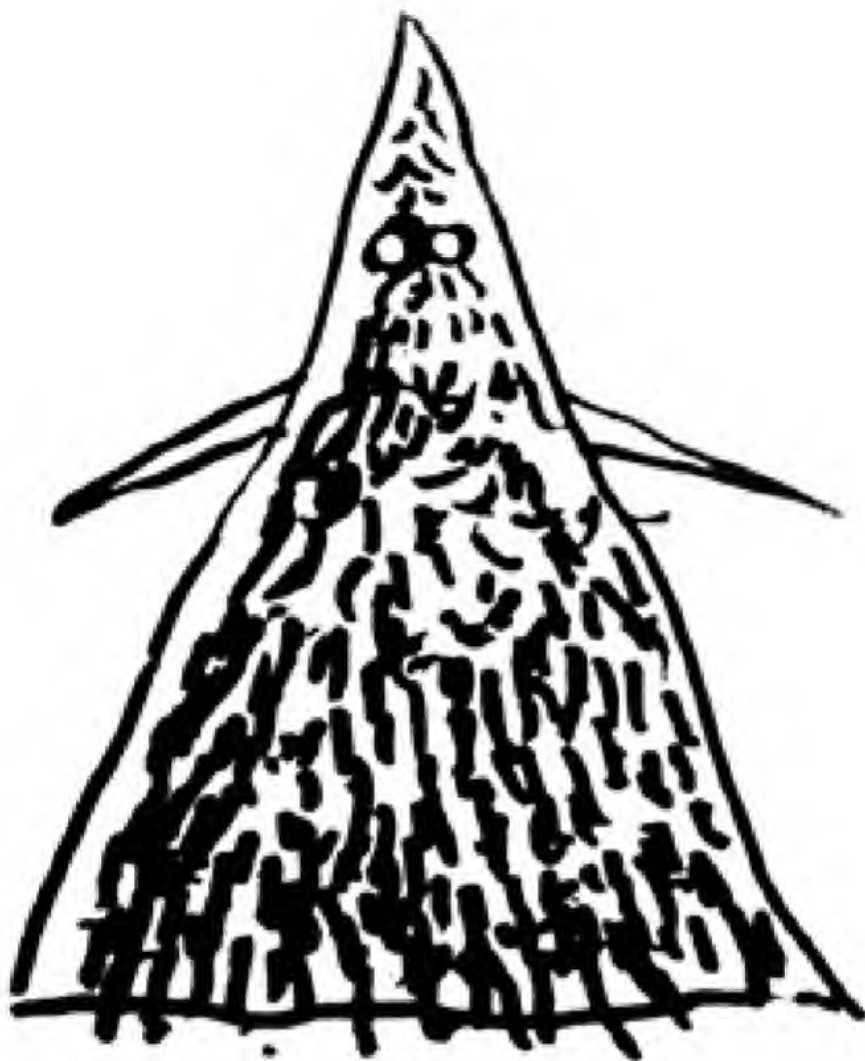
“Right before we saw this thing we smelled like a tire fire or something”. - Mother

“It had glowing eyes, two shining eyes, they were really bright against the dark prickly body of the thing”. - Mother

“It was standing in the road and we were coming up on it pretty fast and I thought we would hit it but then we saw it fly straight up into the sky”. - Father

“It was like a black tree, a black furry tree” - Daughter

“It’s eyes were bright like white Christmas tree lights but only two like eyes not lights, then I say they were like lights I mean they glowed but there’s no better way to say it Christmas light eyes”.



Black “tree” creature seen on two occasions in Bay City, Michigan. Family members jokingly referred to the witnesses stories as being attacked by a Christmas Tree. The witnesses claim that the creature was black colored and seemed either “prickly” or “furry”. The creature had two bright white lights for eyes and the family called them “Christmas light eyes”.

JANUARY 20, 1993

GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN

In the early morning hours of January 20th two sisters were smoking cigarettes behind the garage of their home in Grand Rapids. Both of them thought that an ash from the cigarettes had fallen on something and was starting a fire because they smelled something "burning like garbage."

As the sisters started walking back to the house they noticed something in the backyard. At first they thought it was "a tall man" wearing "a woman's coat" but then they realized that the "man" seemed to be floating.

They then saw that it wasn't a man because it was "much taller than a man" and that's when they noticed the creatures glowing eyes. Even though the sun was starting to come up and the sky was brightening the creature's eyes were "much brighter than normal day light".

Shocked at the sight of strange creature the sisters stood as if they were "frozen to the spot" as the creature came nearer to them and extended it's long, thin arms which seemed to have "two long fingers".

The girls did not feel frightened but said that they both got the idea that the creature was hurt or "in distress".

As the creature came within 10 feet of the girls they turned and began to run back to the house. There was a large flash of lighting and a tremendous explosion of

thunder. The girls turned around when they reached the house and the creature had vanished.

During the next few weeks both girls reported that they had horrific nightmares and yet could not remember the actual dreams only that they woke up in terror. Eventually the dreams stopped.

KEY QUOTES FROM THE GIRLS

“We thought we dropped a hot from our cigarette because it smelled burning like garbage.”

“We though there was a tall man but he seemed to be wearing a woman’s coat or a dress.”

“We saw its eyes glowing because they were much brighter than normal day light.”

“We wanted to run but we couldn’t because we were frozen to the spot.”

“When the thing reached out for us it had two long fingers or what looked like long fingers.”

“Later when we talked about it we both felt that whatever it was might have been hurt or something. It seemed like how you feel when you see a hurt animal or a person in distress.”

“We talked about our dreams after that but we really couldn’t remember them but both of us would wake up screaming.”



One of the sisters from the Grand Rapids encounter is a fairly accomplished artist. This is her rendition of the creature that was witnessed on the morning of January 20th. Both girls agree that the creature did not seem to be attacking them but reaching out to them for some kind of help. Although they both suffered from nightmares after the encounter they both still insist that although they were startled and shocked at the time they are currently not frightened of the experience

MAY 13, 1993

TRAVERSE CITY, MICHIGAN

Rick Smith of Traverse City, Michigan was standing in his backyard calling for his dog when he noticed a strange figure standing by a group of trees in the far Southeast corner of his yard. The figure seemed to be "hugging" the tree. He thought it was some neighborhood kids fooling around.

He then noticed his dog was cowering near the fence in the Northwest corner of his yard. As he walked to where his dog was he noticed that the figure was no longer near the tree but seemed to be floating up into the branches of the tree. He called out and told what he still thought were kids fooling around to get out of his yard.

He grabbed the dog's collar and led it back into the house while keeping his eye on the figure which he now thought was, "Maybe a kite or a big black plastic garbage bag."

After putting the dog in the house we watched from behind his screen door as the figure "seemed to turn" and that is when he noticed the eyes that "twinkled". He went into the kitchen and retrieved a small disposable 35 mm camera. When he returned to the backyard some minutes later the thing was gone. He noticed a small light in the tree and so he took a photograph.

Later that evening Mr. Smith smelled something like

“someone burning leaves” even though it wasn’t that time of year.

He does not remember having any nightmares.

KEY QUOTES FROM THE RICK SMITH

“I saw what I thought was a kid or somebody out there hugging one of my trees”.

“The next time I looked it was kind of climbing or floating up in the air so I thought it was maybe a kite or a big black plastic garbage bag or something”.

“It had eyes that twinkled but I only saw that after it seemed to turn toward me”

“Never felt frightened or scared or anything, as a matter of fact at one point I think I thought it might be some kind of hurt animal.”

“As it started moving up into the branches I saw how big it was it must have been six or seven feet from top to bottom”.

“It was around three hours later that I thought I smelled someone burning leaves. I could smell it in the house but it didn’t seem to be outside when I went out there. By the time I went back in the house I couldn’t smell it anymore”.

“I told my brother about what happened and he called you. I didn’t really want to say anything about it because I didn’t want people thinking I was crazy or a drunk or something”.



The photo pictured above was taken approximately five minutes after the sighting of the creature. The head of the creature was at about the level where the leaves and branches start to appear. Strangely near the top of the tree an odd light was seen and appears in the photo as a streak of light. a slow shutter speed is not thought to have cause this streak since everything else in the photograph is in focus. It is not known if this streak of light and the creature are related to each other.

WHAT IS THE MICHIGAN MONSTER?

Are there more cases than the ones documented in this book? The answer is most resoundingly “Yes!” It is very well known that in any situation there are people who experience strange things that never report them. Since people are afraid of being labeled “strange” they very often refuse to share their experiences. Tracking down the cases in this book was done only through the hard-work of dedicated people who were passionate about documenting the strangeness that had occurred.

No one knows what the Michigan Monster is or if it is even one creature. Since the locations of sightings have happened across the state of Michigan it is possible that there is more than one creature. It is also possible that everything has been hoaxed. Until more research is done the happenings will remain mysterious and unsolved. Will the creature keep returning? No one is sure of anything with experiences of this kind. There are no answers there are only more questions.

SOME LINGERING QUESTIONS.

Is there only one creature?

Is the creature an animal or a psychic experience?

Are there environmental factors that need to be ex-

plored?

What part, if any, do the nightmares play?

How is the smell related to the experiences?

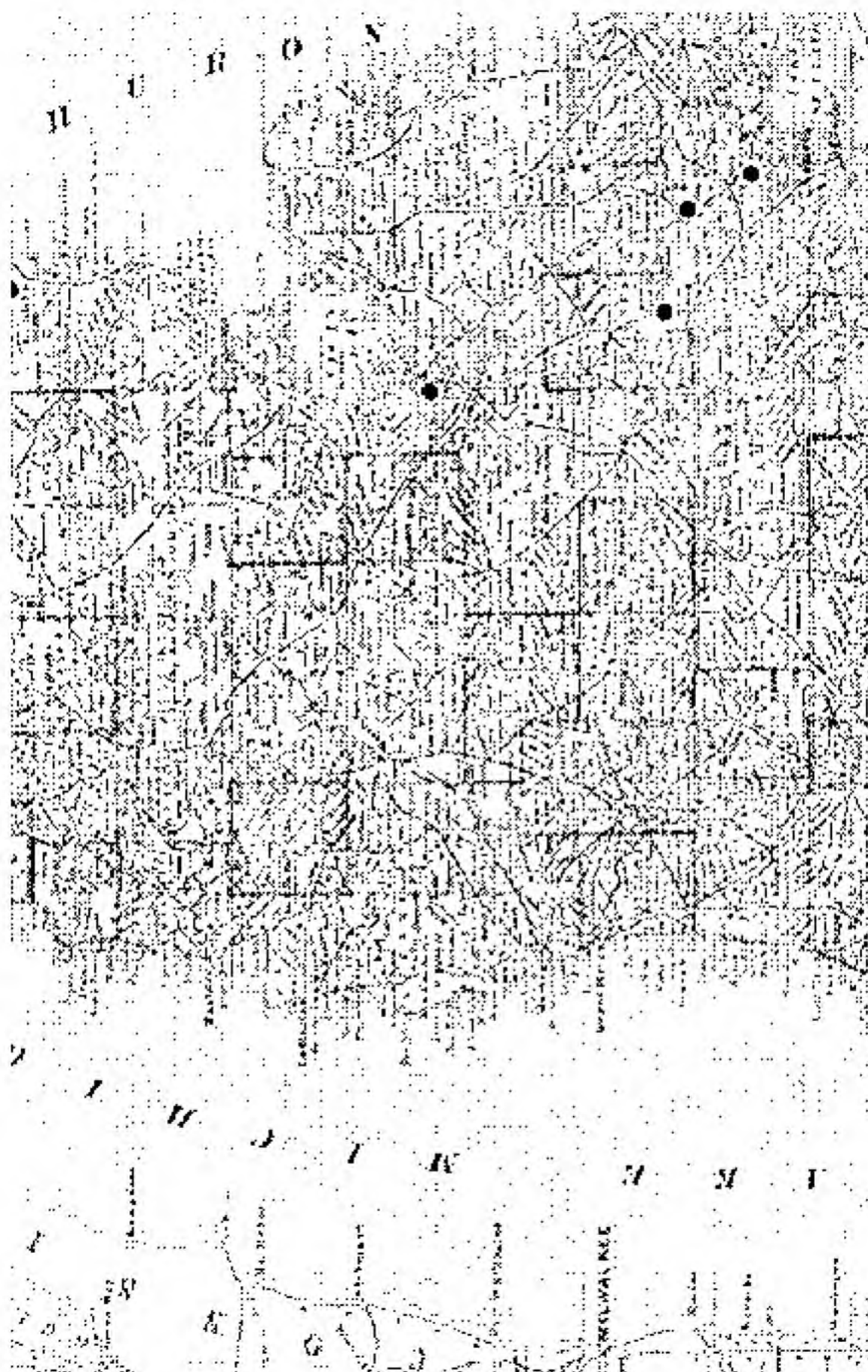
I can only hope that this collection of experiences will inspire others to research these strange cases and perhaps even find more of them. It is possible that some incidents with this monster are being reported as Bigfoot encounters or to flying saucer investigators. If you have heard of one of these cases or if you have ever experienced something like what you have read in this book please contact someone and share your story.

Thank You,
Y. Hampton, 1993
Detroit, Mich.

MICHIGAN MAP AND SIGHTING AREAS



MICHIGAN MAP AND SIGHTING AREAS



UFOs sightings spark debate

By **MARY AVERILL**

Daily Telegram Staff Writer

LENAWEE — For about a hundred years, people have been reporting seeing objects flying through the sky they could not identify.

Virginia Tilly, a Grand Rapids resident and MUFON board member, said in a recent interview that she didn't know of any UFO sightings in Lenawee County, but "there have been a number in the southeastern part of the state."

"Michigan has always had a disproportionately high percentage of sightings for the U.S.," Tilly said.

Tilly indicated that the government covers up the UFO-related information that it has. She said MUFON attempts to obtain this information for their investigations through the Freedom of Information Act and court proceedings.

AUGUST 14 1992

JULY 1992
THE STORY OF CHUCK KINNEY

"I learned I saw Big Foot in my backyard in Michigan, when I was 9. I saw this hairy monster man shaking a pine tree like he was going to pull it up by the roots. The next day, that tree was gone."

A Big Foot sighting might be enough excitement to satisfy most people, but Kinney claims he was also abducted and beamed aboard an enormous silver spaceship that went unnoticed by others in his neighborhood.

Chuck Kinney, a former resident of Michigan had childhood experiences with a UFO and a creature which he now calls "Bigfoot." His experiences became known to him after using hypnosis. His story has similarities to some of the 1992-1993 encounters. As with many of the people who experience these strange happenings he struggles to explain all of his experiences which do not conform to the everyday world.

He now hosts UFO conferences in Standpoint, Washington.

3 MONTHS BEFORE A SIMILAR ENCOUNTER?

On January 18, 1991 in Czestochowa, Poland a woman glanced at the sky and saw a strange object. She thought it was strange but felt happy that she had seen it. Later that night outside the window of her apartment she saw two beings floating in the darkness. She said they were approximately 6 feet tall and dressed in grayish robes.



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It should also be noted that just prior to the 92-93 creature encounters Michigan Bigfoot hunters Wayne King and Art Kapa reported an increase in Bigfoot sightings around the state of Michigan. Although there seem to be many differences between the Michigan Monster and Bigfoot there are also many similarities and perhaps should be investigated to see if any connection between the creatures is warranted.

Bigfoot believer out shaking the bushes

April 1992



Wayne King and cast of a footprint he found.

My gratitude to the researchers who helped make this book possible.

***Art Kapa,
Wayne King,
Marion Kuclo,
Douglas Ruben,
John Tenney,
Marcello Truzzi,
and Ron Westrum***

Their hard work and dedication inspires me.

NIGHTMARE FORESTS

THE MICHIGAN MONSTER ATTACKS OF 1992-93

Between the summer of 1992 and the spring of 1993 in the forests of Michigan's northern lower peninsula a series of strange encounters took place for which no acceptable solution has never been found. The witnesses and victims of these experiences have all agreed to tell their stories here for the first time without censoring.

The stories contained in this book are published here in the hopes of discovering the truth behind the mysterious monster that now roams unchallenged across our state.



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